

Commissioners Hire Director for Office of Management and Budget

COLUMBUS--Franklin County Commissioners today appointed Kenneth Wilson as Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Wilson, 37, presently serves the Ohio Senate as Director of Finance for the Democratic Caucus. He also worked as the caucus' Director of Policy and as Legislative Aide for Senator Ben Espy. Wilson holds a Masters in Public Administration from Ohio University and a BA from Michigan State University, where he majored in public affairs, metropolitan studies, and business.

Board of Commissioners President Mary Jo Kilroy said that the breadth of Wilson's experience will be valuable to the county at a time when it is facing a "perfect storm" of financial problems: a sluggish economy, escalating health care costs, potentially catastrophic cuts to the local government fund by the state, and ongoing federal cuts to programs administered by counties.

"Kenneth Wilson brings a deep understanding of the public budget process and the challenges of managing resources in tough economic times. He understands how policy and budgets either intersect or collide. He is adept at sizing up a difficult situation and finding opportunities for leadership, and we are confident his experience will be invaluable to Franklin County at this time."

Commissioner Paula Brooks said, "Kenneth Wilson's knowledge of constituent service, collaborative planning, and fiscal problem-solving are valuable commodities for any manager, but particularly for the office that plans and oversees the county's \$1.3 billion budget. His experience will serve us well in these tough economic times."

Wilson, who will earn \$98,000 a year, will begin work June 13.